

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 18

May 16, 2008

SUBJECT: ACTIVATION OF THE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION DIVISION, WITNESS CRITIQUE FORM, FORM 10.30.00 AND RECORDS AND IDENTIFICATION, CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION SECTION, WITNESS CRITIQUE FORM, FORM 10.31.00

PURPOSE: In order to ensure the quality of expert witness testimony given by Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) criminalists, Scientific Investigation Division (SID) implemented the use of the Witness Critique Form, LAPD Temporary Form 144. The purpose of this Order is to establish the SID Witness Critique Form, Form 10.30.00, formerly known as the Witness Critique Form, LAPD Temporary Form 144. In addition, it also establishes the Records and Identification Division (R&I), Criminal Identification Section (CIS), Witness Critique Form, Form 10.31.00.

PROCEDURE: The forms shall be given to court personnel (e.g., judge, defense attorney(s), and district/city attorney) to rate the quality of expert witness testimony given by either SID personnel or CIS fingerprint examiners.

I. ACTIVATION OF FORMS. The SID, Witness Critique Form, and the R&I, CIS Witness Critique Form, are activated.

A. Use of Forms.

- * The SID, Witness Critique Form is used to rate the expert witness testimony given by SID personnel.
- * The R&I, CIS Witness Critique Form is used to rate the expert witness testimony given by CIS fingerprint examiners.

B. Completion. Completion of the forms is self-explanatory.

C. Distribution.

1 - Original, to employee's section training folder after reviewed by employee's supervisor.

1 - Total

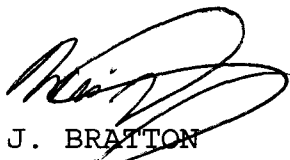
II. EMPLOYEE'S RESPONSIBILITY. The testifying expert witness shall complete the top portion of the form with their information before giving it to court personnel for completion.

III. SUPERVISOR'S RESPONSIBILITY. Supervisors shall review the form(s) and identify any training issues needed to improve the quality of the employee's expert witness testimony.

FORMS AVAILABILITY: The SID, Witness Critique Form, Form 10.30.00, and the R&I, CIS Witness Critique Form, Form 10.31.00, will be available from the Department of General Services, Distribution Center, in approximately 60 days. Copies of the forms are attached for immediate use.

AMENDMENTS: This Order adds Department Manual Sections 5/10.30.00 and 5/10.31.00.

AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY: The Commanding Officer, SID, and the Commanding Officer, R&I Division, shall monitor compliance with this directive in accordance with Department Manual Section 0/080.30.



WILLIAM J. BRATTON
Chief of Police

Attachments

DISTRIBUTION "E"

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION DIVISION

WITNESS CRITIQUE FORM

The purpose of this questionnaire is to provide information to the management of Scientific Investigation Division (SID) with which we may evaluate and upgrade the quality of court testimony given by SID personnel. Your thoughtful response and time spent is greatly appreciated. You are asked to complete the numbered items.

After completing this card, fold in half and tape.

DO NOT USE STAPLES

Place the card in the U.S. mail

Div. or Dept. _____ Date _____

Defendant _____ Victim _____

Court Case or DR # _____ Verdict _____

SID Employee Testifying _____

1. Was Testimony clear/explicit?

Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐

2. Was SID's Employee's appearance appropriate?

Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐

3. Was SID's Employee's demeanor professional?

Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐

4. Was SID's Employee properly prepared/knowledgeable?

Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐

5. Did SID's Employee confine responses to questions asked?

Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐

6. Comments on testimony:

7. Person Submitting _____

Title: Judge _____ DA _____ CA _____ PD _____ Def _____ Other _____

Phone _____

Thank you for your assistance.

Commanding Officer, Scientific Investigation Division

(323) 415-8100

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
Records & Identification Division/Criminal Identification Section

WITNESS CRITIQUE FORM

The purpose of this questionnaire is to provide information to management that may allow an evaluation of the quality of court testimony furnished by our fingerprint examiners. It is our intention to provide the highest level of honest, reliable, and professional testimony to the criminal justice system. Thank you for your time and thoughtful responses in helping us maintain this standard of excellence.

After completing this card, please fold in half and tape.

DO NOT USE STAPLES

Place card in the US Mail

Court DIV or DEPT: _____ DATE: _____ Court Case: _____

Examiner Testifying _____

POOR EXCELLENT

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. The witness spoke clearly and confidently. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. The witness demonstrated strong technical knowledge. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Witness confined responses to questions asked. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Witness maintained neutrality toward all parties. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Witness was credible. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. Witness was on time to court. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. Witness maintained eye contact with court members. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

8. Additional Comments: _____

Person Submitting _____

Title: Judge _____ District Attorney _____ City Attorney _____ Attorney for the Defense _____

Phone and/or E-mail: _____

Thank you for your assistance.
Commanding Officer, Records & Identification Division
(213) 485-2601